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SUBJECT Ke Loc and the Lien Quan Bien Canh
(Sino-Vietnamese Allied Border Army)

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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*Except as noted

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. Ke Loc (CHI Lu; 4949/4382), a Sino-Nung metis who was born in Lang Son, is the Commander of the Lien Quan Bien Canh (LQBC) (Sino-Vietnamese Allied Border Army).¹ Ke was one of CHIANG Kai-shek's private secretaries during World War II, but was in fact working for the Chinese Communist Party. When Ke finally was uncovered, he escaped to Vietnam and joined the Viet Minh. During 1944-1945 Ke served as an instructor at the Bac Son military school. His students included Bang Giang,² Hoang Son, Le Quang Ba,³ Song Hao,⁴ and Chu Van Tan.⁵ When the Viet Minh assumed power in North Vietnam, Ke was put in charge of Chinese Affairs in the Cao Bang (106-15; 22-40) - Bac Kan (105-49; 22-08) - Lang Son (106-45; 21-50) area. When the LQBC was established Ke was made its Commander-in-Chief.⁶
2. The LQBC has been considerably strengthened since the beginning of 1952. Although the strength of the LQBC is not known, 90 percent of the troops are Chinese Communists who have entered Vietnam through Ha Giang (104-58; 22-49).⁷ The remaining 10 percent of the troops are Vietnamese who joined the LQBC primarily as guides and advisers. These advisers include a number of Democratic Republic of Vietnam (DRV) political agents. LQBC units are stationed along main roads in northern Tonkin including the Cao Bang - Lang Son road and the Ha Giang - Tuyen Quang (105-14; 21-49) road.
3. The LQBC receives orders from the South China High Command. However the Chinese Communists do not overtly send troops to Vietnam to fight alongside the DRV. Occasionally, however, units of the LQBC including the 42 Division have been committed for brief periods.⁸

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4. Units of the IQBC will join DRV regional units in an attack on the Son La (103-54; 21-19) - Lai Chau (103-09; 22-04) area.

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1. [] Comment. [] that Nguyen Son and HU Hu (5170/5706) are joint commanders of the IQBC of North Vietnam. This is the first report of Ke Loc's being the commander of the IQBC. This office has no other information concerning Ke Loc. 25X1

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2. [] Comment. In [] Colonel Bang Giang is referred to as Deputy Commander of the Viet Bac.

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3. [] Comment. In [] Lt. Colonel Le Quang Ba is listed as a member of the DRV General Staff and former Commander of Interzone I.

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4. [] Comment. [] Song Hoa is the Political Commissar of the DRV 308 Division. 25X1 25X1A

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5. [] Comment. In [] Chu Van Tan is listed as a DRV Brigadier General and Political Commissar of the Viet Bac Interzone. In [] Chu Van Tan is listed as a member of the Central Committee of the Lao Dong Party of Vietnam.

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6. [] Comment. In [] it was reported that the IQBC was organized in late July 1951.

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7. [] Comment. In [] it was reported that the IQBC has grown from 9,000 to 20,000 men, which is full strength.

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8. [] Comment. [] for information concerning military operations of the IQBC 42 Division against Franco-Vietnamese units.

[] Comment. The news that Chinese Communist units are in North Vietnam has been very slow to leak out, probably because these units seldom have entered combat. One recent indication that such units are really present is the testimony [] to North Vietnam Government circles who returned from the DRV-controlled zone of North Vietnam in May 1952. [] how- 25X1
ever, that information concerning the presence of Chinese Communist units in Vietnam should be kept secret. 25X1

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[] Comment. This report tends to confirm a series of reports [] concerning the presence of the IQBC in North Vietnam.

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